

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY East Germany
SUBJECT Wismut A.G.: Object 90

REPORT

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50X1-HUM

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Lichtenberg

1. The labor force in this Schacht was reduced in early March 1954 when about 150 men were transferred to Object 2 and 10 men to the open cast workings of Object 90 in Gauern. They were not immediately replaced, but rumors were current in the Schacht that some workers were expected to arrive shortly from Saalfeld.
2. The ore at the 30 meter level was slowly being exhausted, and the main flow was then coming from the 60 and 90 meter levels. Preparation had already been made for mining to start at a depth of 120 meters. At the beginning of this year, tests were made to discover if ore was to be found at a depth of 180 meters, 210 meters, and 240 meters. At the beginning of March, there were no signs of preparations for mining at these depths. The ore being mined at present is of grades II and III.

Schmirchau

3. At the beginning of March 1954, 100 workers were transferred to Object 2. There were then two pits in operation in this Schacht, although there had long been talk of opening a third. Grades II and III ore was being obtained at depths of 30, 60 and 90 meters from these two pits, but work was being hampered constantly by water.

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Gauern

4. The labor force employed at these open cast workings in early March 1954 numbered approximately 300. Six steam shovels were in use, and others were expected; 40 trucks were being used to remove to four pit heaps the waste cleared from the workings. The waste was then being cleared to a depth of 5-8 meters and consisted of earth, clay, and soft sandstone. Below this depth of 5-8 meters, there lies a gray argillaceous slate which contains ore.

Construction work in Gauern

5. Construction work for Object 90, Gauern, in March 1954 was being done by Object 11. The headquarters controlling this construction was reported to have moved from Ronneburg to Truenzig.
6. The projects under construction in Gauern included: a headquarters building, a garage, a compressor station (Kompressorstation), an engine shed, and a laundry. In addition, a loading plant was being constructed at Gauern station. On the actual site of the workings, two testing stations (Pruefstand) for tippers were being prepared.

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